

REMARKS

After entering of this amendment, claims 1-21 will be pending. Claims 22-24 have been cancelled.

Claims 9, 11, 15, 17 and 21 have been amended to improve their form. None of the amendments add new matter.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in view of the following remarks. Issues raised by the Examiner will be addressed below in the order they appear in the Office Action.

Claim Objections

Claim 9 was objected to because “anNF-ATn” should read “an NF-ATn”. Claim 9 has been amended accordingly.

Claim 21 was objected to because “encoded a nucleic acid” should read “encoded by a nucleic acid”. Claim 21 has been amended accordingly.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraws these objections.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, ¶2

The Examiner rejects claims 9-12 and 19-21 as indefinite over the recitation of an “NF-AT complex”. The Examiner states that it is not clear as to what constitutes this complex.

Applicants traverse the Examiner’s rejection. The specification states that NF-AT refers to a complex comprising NF-ATc and NF-ATn. *See, e.g.*, page 4, lines 20-21. However, in order to expedite prosecution, Applicants have amended claims 9 and 11 as suggested by the Examiner to specify that the complex comprises NF-ATc and NF-ATn. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraws this rejection.

Rejection for Obviousness-Type Double Patenting

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-21 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over the claims of U.S. Patent Nos. 6,352,830, 6,150,009 and 6,171,781 to Crabtree et al. Without conceding the appropriateness of these rejections, Applicants are submitting herewith a terminal disclaimer of this application over these three patents. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection in view of this terminal disclaimer.

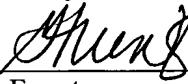
Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Early and favorable reconsideration is respectfully solicited.

Applicant believes no fee, other than the terminal disclaimer fee and the one month extension fee, is due with this response. However, if any additional fees are due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 18-1945, under Order No. SUPP-P05-008, from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

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Respectfully submitted,

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